

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

ISLE OF AXHOLME RURAL DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR

1944.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of your district for the year 1944.

The area of the district is 51,104 acres.

The rateable value, on 31st March, 1944, was £29,050.

The estimated net product of 1d. rate for the year 1944 was £113/4/6.

This is a purely rural and agricultural area with its associated businesses.


Estimated population, 13,146.

VITAL STATISTICS.

										Total	M	F
Births.												
Live Births (Legitimate)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	242	129	113
Live Births (Illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	7	6
Total Live Births										255	136	119
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.4
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Total	M	F
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	4	6
												37.7
Deaths.												
Total Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	152
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.6
Total Deaths of Infants under one year of age	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35.2
Deaths from cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Deaths from measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil

CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

	M	F
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	1
Whooping Cough	1	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	—	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	—
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	1
Cancer of Breast	—	1
Cancer of all other sites	8	6
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	13	16
Diseases of the Heart	20	20
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	2	2
Bronchitis	10	3
Pneumonia	2	—
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	2
Other Digestive Disorders	—	1
Nephritis	4	10
Premature Births	1	1
Congenital Diseases	1	3
Suicide	—	1
All Other Causes	5	10
Totals	73	79



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HOSPITAL AND HEALTH SERVICES.

Infectious Diseases.—Cases of infectious diseases occurring in the area are isolated at the County Isolation Hospital at Brumby, and should this not be available, accommodation can be secured at the Grimsby Isolation Hospital and Doncaster.

Should any cases of Smallpox occur they can be isolated at the County Isolation Hospital at Osgodby.

Tuberculosis.—Admission and treatment of cases of Tuberculosis can be obtained at Branston Hall Sanatorium, Brumby Isolation Hospital, Louth Tuberculosis Hospital and Foxby Hill Hospital at Gainsborough. Further provision for selected cases can be made at seaside Tuberculosis Hospitals and Sanatoria.

Ambulances are attached to these hospitals for the removal of cases of infectious disease.

Laboratory Facilities.—There is a County Laboratory at Lincoln where bacteriological examination of swabs and suspected cases of diphtheria is carried out; swabs of sputum in cases of tuberculosis and any other bacteriological examination necessary can also be obtained there.

The Public Health Officers of the Council are the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector, both part time and remunerated partly by the Council and partly by Exchequer Grants.

Maternity and Child Welfare.—Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are established throughout the area. The District Nurses attend and these Clinics receive regular and periodical inspection and supervision by a Medical Officer employed by the County Council. There expectant mothers, mothers and infants receive attention, supervision and advice.

Nursing.—There are five Nurses in the district who are also certified midwives. These Nurses are supported by their respective Nursing Associations. A grant is made by the County Council to these Nursing Associations, which undertake midwifery and certain other County Council services.

There is a Maternity Hospital at Scunthorpe where, if necessary, urgent maternity cases requiring hospital treatment may be admitted under an arrangement with the Lindsey County Council or by private arrangement.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following list of diseases was notified during the year 1944:—

Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	2
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	32
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	11
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Acute Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	4
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	36

Note.—Of the two cases of Diphtheria which had been notified one was an adult. The other, a child of seven, had not been immunised, permission not having been given by the parents.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Three cases of Tuberculosis have been added to the register during the year. All three cases were of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (two females aged 32 and 13 respectively and one male aged 14 years).

ANTI-DIPHTHERIC IMMUNISATION.

The Lindsey County Council are responsible for the organisation of immunisation of children under school age and bear the cost. Parents can, however, still take their children to their local medical practitioner and the cost is borne by the Lindsey County Council.

The scheme for the immunisation of all school children is in the hands of the Rural District Council.

The following statistics afford an indication of the progress made under the scheme:—

1.—Approximate number of children in area ...						Under 5 years.	5—15 years.
...	...	...	...	...	...	1040	2200
Percentage of Children immunised:—						per cent.	per cent.
At 30 June, 1942 ...	...	...	...	...	...	17.3	36.8
At 20th January, 1943 ...	...	...	...	...	...	42.3	59.1
At 31st December, 1943 ...	...	...	...	...	...	66.4	78.0
At 31st December, 1944 ...	...	...	...	...	...	76.0	78.0 app

2.—At 31st December, 1944, 804 children under five years and 1719 children between five and fifteen years had been immunised.

3.—Number of Notifications of Diphtheria (Children under 15 years):—

1st January, to 31st December, 1940—18 cases.

1st January to 31st December, 1940—18 cases.
1st January to 31st December, 1941—1 case.

1st January to 31st December, 1942—6 cases.

1st January to 31st December, - 1943—1 case.

1st January to 31st December, 1944—1 case.

Only one case of diphtheria has so far been notified where the child has been immunised and this child recovered from the illness.

HOUSING.

Total Number of New Houses erected during the year:—

[illegible]

Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year:—

- | | | |
|-----|--|----|
| (a) | Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 28 |
| (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose | 34 |
| (c) | Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 11 |
| (d) | Number of dwellingshouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 17 |

Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices:—

Number of Defective Dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	15
Action under Statutory Powers during the year	Nil

Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwellinghouses overcrowded at the end of the year	41
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	41
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	194
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil
Totals from year ending 31st December, 1939: no further action has been taken.	

Common Lodging Houses.—Number registered under by-laws Nil

Canal Boats used as Dwellinghouses.—Number registered under Acts Nil

Movable Dwellings, Tents, Vans, etc.:—

Number inspected during the year	1
Number of nuisances therefrom abated	Nil

Bakehouses.

Number in district	7
Number of inspections	2
Contraventions of Factory Acts	Nil

Slaughterhouses.—Number on register

Number of inspections	Nil
Contraventions of by-laws	Nil

Cowsheds.

Number on register	185
Number of inspections	5
Contraventions of regulations	25 per cent.
Contraventions remedied	2
Number of milch cows in district	728

Dairies and Milk Shops.

Number on register	90
Number of inspections	5
Contraventions of regulations	30 per cent.
Contraventions remedied	Nil
Any instance of disease attributed to milk during the year	No

Unsound Food.

Unsound Food surrendered:—22 lbs. tinned meat; 1½ lbs. tinned fish; 4½ lbs. butter; 122 tins milk; 1 cwt. cereals; 93 lbs. cheese.

Offensive Trades.

Number of premises in district	Nil
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Water Supply.

New wells sunk	Nil
Public Supply.—Area supplied	all parishes
Percentage of houses supplied	90 per cent.
New Cisterns provided	Nil
Any insufficiency and where	only in outlying areas

Closets.

Number of houses with privy vaults in district	50 per cent.
Number of houses with pail closets in district	40 per cent.
Number of water-closets substituted for dry receptacles	23
Number of houses with water-closets in district	272

Drains.

Drains examined, tested, exposed, etc.	to all new buildings
Drains unstopped, repaired, trapped, etc.	12
New soil pipes or ventilating shafts fixed	to all new W.C.'s

Sewers.

New length of sewer laid, Hollingsworth Lane, Epworth. (240 yards).

Disinfection.

Rooms disinfected (ordinary infectious diseases)	34
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House Refuse.

Number of covered ashpits	40 per cent.
Number of uncovered ashpits	40 per cent.
Number of bins substituted for ashpits	Nil
Number of houses using bins	20 per cent.
Parish of Crowle: Removed by Public Scavenger. Pans and Dustbins weekly; Middens, Ashpits, etc. every two months. Remainder of area by householders as required.	
Number of complaints of non-removal	12
Method of final disposal is by controlled tipping on arable land, gardens, etc.	
Existing arrangements for refuse removal are unsatisfactory.	

Nuisances.—Total number of Nuisances during the year:—

(1) Abated as result of informal action by Sanitary Inspector	8
(2) Reported to Council—Statutory notice issued	2

POST-WAR SCHEMES.

Housing.—The Council are proceeding with the formulation of plans for the erection of houses in the post-war period. It is anticipated that round about 100 houses will be erected in the first two post-war years on sites already owned by the Council. Plans for the acquisition of further sites are being prepared.

Water.—The Council have prepared provisional proposals for supplying water in pipes to all populated parts of the district.

Sewerage.—Provisional Schemes for a comprehensive water carriage system to serve the whole district are in course of preparation.

I have the honour to remain, yours faithfully,

Epworth,
October, 1945.

ARTHUR M. MACGREGOR,
M.B., Ch.,B.

